

Political Science, BA

Requirements

The Bachelor of Arts with a major in political science requires a minimum of 120 s.h., including 36 s.h. of work for the major (all in political science courses). At least 18 s.h. of coursework for the major must be taken at the University of Iowa. Students must maintain a grade-point average of at least 2.00 in all courses for the major and in all UI courses for the major. They also must complete the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences GE CLAS Core.

Credit earned in POLI:1000 First-Year Seminar, POLI:3124 Guided Political Science Internship, POLI:3710 Law School Readiness Seminar, POLI:3711 Law School Readiness Seminar II, POLI:3993 Political Science Undergraduate Research Projects, and POLI:4900 Government and Politics Internship does not count toward the major, but grades in these courses become part of a student's grade-point average.

In planning coursework, students should be guided by the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences maximum hours rule: students earning a BA may apply a maximum of 56 s.h. earned in one department to the minimum 120 s.h. required for graduation, whether or not the coursework is accepted toward requirements for the major; students who earn more than 56 s.h. from one department may use the additional semester hours to satisfy requirements for the major (if the department accepts them), and the grades they earn become part of their grade-point average, but they cannot apply the additional semester hours to the minimum 120 s.h. required for graduation.

The BA with a major in political science requires the following coursework.

Requirements	Hours
Political Science Introductory Courses	15
Additional Political Science Courses	21

Political Science Introductory Courses

Course #	Title	Hours
This course:		
POLI:1100	Introduction to American Politics	3
And four of these:		
POLI:1001	Introduction to Politics	3
POLI:1050	Big Ideas: Introduction to Information, Society, and Culture	3
POLI:1120	Introduction to Lawyers in the American Political System	3
POLI:1200	Introduction to Political Behavior	3
POLI:1300	Introduction to Political Thought and Action	3
POLI:1400	Introduction to Comparative Politics	3
POLI:1401	Introduction to Russian Politics	3

POLI:1449	Introduction to European Politics	3
POLI:1500	Introduction to International Relations	3
POLI:1501	Introduction to American Foreign Policy	3
POLI:1510	International Politics of Environmental Issues	3
POLI:1600	Introduction to Political Communication	3
POLI:1601	Introduction to Social Media and Politics	3
POLI:1700	Introduction to Political Analysis	3
POLI:1800	Introduction to the Politics of Class and Inequality	3
POLI:1900	Introduction to the Politics of Race	3
POLI:1950	Introduction to the Politics of Religion	3

Additional Political Science Courses

Course #	Title	Hours
All of these:		
At least seven additional political science courses numbered 2000 or above, excluding POLI:3124, POLI:3710, POLI:3711, POLI:3992, POLI:3993, and POLI:4900		21

Emphases in Political Science

Students may elect to complete one or two emphasis areas while fulfilling the requirements for the major. Emphasis areas are indicated on the transcript at graduation if students complete the emphasis and request recognition from the department.

Each emphasis consists of four courses. Emphases are available in American institutions, identity politics, international relations, political behavior, political communication, politics of foreign countries, and public policy. For courses approved in each area, contact the Department of Political Science.

Online BA

The Department of Political Science offers an online BA degree with a major in political science intended for students who are not able to attend courses that meet on campus. The online program enables students to complete their BA degree from anywhere in the world.

Teacher Licensure

Students interested in teaching in elementary and/or secondary schools should seek admission to the Teacher Education Program (TEP) in the College of Education.

To qualify for licensure in secondary teaching, students in the TEP complete a degree in education as well as a related College of Liberal Arts and Sciences degree. See Apply on the College of Education website for details on requirements and deadlines for applying to the College of Education and about TEP choices of majors leading to licensure.